Salt lodisation Scheme. No adverse efforts on account of consumption of Iodised salt have come to the notice of the Government of India. On the contrary results of Longitudinal studies conducted in Kangra Valley of Himachal Pradesh by Prof. Ramalingaswami (Retd., D. G., ICMR) etc. have clearly revealed the effectiveness of Iodised salt in reduction of Goitre and other Iodine Deficiency Disorder. The experts in the field of Goitre and other IDDs have supported the policy of Universal Salt lodisation. There are 22 other countries in the Woild which have successfully prevented the problem of Goitre through Universal Salt lodisation.

Discriminatory circular issued by AIR India

1165. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air Hostesses of Air India, their Association, the Air Corporations Employees Union, Trade Unions and Women's Organisations jhave protested against AIR INDIA'S November 2, 1990 Circular which prohibits an Air Hostess from flying duty after the age of 45; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to review the matter and withdraw the said discriminatory circular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The circular is not discriminatory and there is no proposal to withdraw it.

Losses incurred by State Electricity Boards

1166. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Electriticy Boards have incurred losses to the tune of Rs. 12, 000 crores during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) if so, what steps are under consideration of Government to minimise the commercial losses by the State Electricity Boards in the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) No, Sir. Losses have been estimated at Rs. 2172 crores.

(b) Steps taken to improve the performance of the State Electricity Boards include amendment to the statute requiring the Boards to earn return of 3 per cent surplus on fixed assets and making theft of power cognizable offence; implementation of Centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation schemes for uprating the performance of the thermal power stations; introduction of meritrious productivity reward scheme for improved performance. The need to improve the financial position of the SEBs has been emphasised to the State Government from time to time and for taking steps like resorting to equity participation, subsidizing the losses for supply of power to the agricultural secotr, revision of tariff etc.

AIR traffic congestion over Northern Bay of Bengal

1167. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the air traffic congestion problems over northern Bay of Bengal of the sub continent; and

(b) if so, what efforts Goveinment are making to improve he situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to avoid air congestion m the night/realignment of air routes in this region has been recommended to the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

Ceiling on prices of drugs

1168. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is notifying ceiling on prices to justify demand of 8 per cent incidentals being raised by the Drug Industry;

(b) whether it is a fact that Small Scale Industry is exempted from price control;

(c) whether it is a fact thatthe products for whicl manufactured by more than 2-3 companies. y one or two companies;

(d) if so, what is the justification for fixing ceiling prices;

(e) what are the details of earlier prices and the revised prices of products for which ceiling prices have been fixed after January, 1990; and

(f) what were the prices of the bulk drugs on which ceiling prices were fixed and whether 8 per cent incidentals were allowed in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYAL- (a) Incidentals are even allowed to non-ceiling formulations subject to actual and within a limit of 8 per cent.

(b) Small Scale Units are exempted from price control in respect of Category II formulations under, DPCO 1987.

(c) and (d) Normally ceiling prices are fixed in respect of such formulations as are

(e) and (f) The requisite information to the extent available is given in the statement.

Statement

Revised prices bulk drugs

SI. No	Name of the formulations	Pack Size	Earlier Price (R%)	Revised price (Rs.)	D: te of Revision
1	Chloroquine Phosphate Inj. 64-5 mg=50mg base/ml.	30ml/vial	7-25	7-25	28-8-90
2	Pilocarpine Nitrate Eye Drops. 20% W/V Solution.	5ml/Bottle with drop-per	12-04	12-04	2-7-90
3	Do. 4% W/V Solution	Do.	18-16	19-98	12-10-90
4	Do. 1% W/V Solution	Do.	6-33	6-96	12-10-90
5	Prednisolone Tab. 5mg/Tab. •	lOXIC's Strip.	N. A.	61-76	12-11-90
6	Trimethoprim Sulphadiazine Tabs. (90mg+410mg)	IOXIO's Strip.	New pack	69-C6	18-9-90
7	Cephatexin Caps/Tabs. (250 mg per Caps. Tabs.)	4's Strip.	12'98	13-20	12-2-90
8	Do. (500mg per Cap/Tab)	4's Strip.	22-90	25-46	12-2-90

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3 [0] *i* incidentals have been allowed where the price of bulk drugs have been nitified.